

Prayer : West Fargo Community
July 29, 2007

Lord, teach us to pray, some of us are better practiced at prayer than others, but all are stammerers at our prayers and don't do as much of it as we should. So draw us to yourself who know our needs before we ask. Teach us to pray.

Teach us to pray adoringly, as ones whose delight is to be in the Lord's presence as those who are caught and lifted up in splendor of your majesty. Teach us to think magnificently about you and so praise your hallowed name.

Teach us to pray earnestly and honestly, repentantly, not hiding our shortcomings or doubts either from you or from ourselves, and not neglecting our thanksgivings small or great.

Teach us to pray faithfully, so that we may earnestly expect something miraculous to happen in our praying, or because of it: some healing of the spirit, some new vision of yourself, some new insight into our own selves.

Teach us to pray for one another, that we may rejoice in others' blessings, share their anxieties, comfort their afflictions, seek healing for the secret pain they are unable to reveal or share.

Hear our prayers for those whose needs or blessings we have lifted up this day, and the silent intercessions that remain unspoken. In our prayers let us share the joy of families re-united after months of anxious separation, and grant us to help bear the burden of those still living in daily anxiety for loved ones in harm's way.

Help us to pray for our wounded earth and the fractured human family, the sick, the hungry, the ones who live in fear. Draw us together in our shared prayers.

Teach us to pray without ceasing, so that all our lives may be offered as prayer, and so transformed in character and quality.

And teach us to pray simply, as your Son, our savior Lord, taught his followers to pray, saying: **Our Father . . .**

Community Church, West Fargo
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